is no shortage of LPG cylinders in the country.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Allotment of Kerosene quota to Assam from Central Pool**

40. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any quota of kerosene fixed from the Central pool to the State; and

(b) if so, what is the quota allotted to Assam during 1987-88 and 1988-89 upto date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The kerosene requirements of States and UTs including Assam are assessed by allowing a suitable growth rate over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocations are made accordingly. Besides the regular allocations, ad-hoc allocations are also made to meet specific situations like floods, drought, shortage of LPG etc.

The total quantity allocated to Assam during 1987-88 and 1988-89 is given below:—

(Figures in tonnes)

| Year | Quantity allocated (including ad-hoc releases) |
|---|---|
| 1987-88 | 218635 • 232485 |
| 1988-89 | |

**Power deficit in the country**

41. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present energy deficit in the country; and

(b) what are the reasons for reduction in average PLF in the year 1988-89 and what have baen its effects on the energy scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) During the year 1988-89 the energy deficit in the country was 7-7%.

(b) The Plant Load Factor of thermal stations during 1988-89 was 55% as against a target of 54-8%.

**Central Public Sector Investment in Punjab**

42. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total Central Public Sector Investment in Punjab at present;

(b) whether the percentage of such investment in Punjab vis-a-vis the total investment has decreased over the years;

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to step it up; and

(d) how many employment opportunities have been created in Punjab since 1984 by setting up industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a.) The total Central Public Sector

gross block in the State of Punjab as on 31-3-88 upto which period only the information is available was Rs. 746.98 crores.